Restoration of Kolleru Lake

241. SHRI J NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Central Government to give permission for utilization of Rs. 40 crores from CAMPA funds for restoration of Kolleru Lake Wild Life Sanctuary:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in according permission to the State Government; and

(d) by when this proposal of the State Government is likely to be accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY: (a) to (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested the Government of India for releasing the money deposited by the State Government in *Ad-hoc* CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) towards the Net Present Value (NPV) etc. The request of the State Government was submitted in the form of a Project Proposal titled "Vana Sanjeevini" of which Acquatic-Wetlan Ecosystem including Kolleru Wildlife Sanctuary is a component.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has not given permission so far to the *Ad-hoc* CAMPA to disburse the monies to the State Governments.

Marginalization of ethnic Indians in Malaysia

242. SHRI JESUDAS USEELAM:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether facing un-precedent protest against alleged marginalization of ethnic Indians, Malaysian Prime Minister assured the community that he would look into their grievance and address them accordingly;

(b) if so, whether India has also taken up this issue with the Malaysian Government where large number of Indians had to face problems in that country and had to flow to other countries for safety; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussion held with the Malaysian Government and the assurance given to Government of India and that Indians in Malaysia could be properly looked?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi of Malaysia had a meeting with representatives of several Indian NGOs on 14 December, 2007 to discuss issues affecting the Indian community in Malaysia, particularly its socio-economic standing in the country. Media reports have quoted a spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office as saying that Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi briefed the representatives of the participating NGOs about the steps taken by the Government to uplift the economic and social standing of the Indian community in Malaysia. He also explained the Government's stand on the HINDRAF issue. According to the spokesman of the Malaysian Government, those who attended the meeting pledged to work with the Government for the betterment of the Malaysian Indian community.

(b) and (c) In *asuo motu* statement made in Parliament on 30 November 2007, the Minister of External Affairs referred to the concern expressed by Hon'ble Members of Parliament regarding the alleged harassment of participants of the rally organised by the Hindu Rights Action Force (HINDRAF) in Kuala Lumpur on 25 November 2007 and subsequent related matters. The Minister of External Affairs stated that Government remain deeply solicitous for the welfare of people of Indian origin living abroad and noted that there is a large community of people of Indian origin in Malaysia who are citizens of that country. He added that we have friendly relations with Malaysia and we are in touch with the Malaysian authorities in the related matter. During our interactions with Malaysian authorities, concerns expressed in India, including in the Parliament, regarding the developments pertaining to < the Indian community in Malaysia have been suitably conveyed.

Harassment ofIndians in Nepal

†243. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians in the tarai region of Nepal are being oppressed;

(b) the number of people returning to India during the last year;

(c) whether the number of the people going to Nepal from India has come down during the last year; and

(d) whether Government is worried about the above issues and whether the reasons have been identified?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Government are closely monitoring political developments in Nepal. All possible steps are being taken to safeguard the interests of the Indian community in Nepal, including those residing in the tarai region.

India and Nepal have open borders and a visa-free regime, which permits the free movement of Indian the Nepalese nationals across the border in both directions, making it difficult to estimate the precise numbers of those returning to India.

Nuclear doctrine of Pakistan

244. SHRI BALAVANT^LWSBALAPTE. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the nuclear doctrine of Pakistan in the year 2002, it was mentioned that nuclear weapons are made keeing only India in mind;

(b) whether four situations also have been mentioned therein when it would use the weapons; and

(c) if so, whether above mentioned is being kept in mind while fixing the priorities of present nuclear deals?